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LETTER DATED 15 NOVEMBER 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to present to you the attached letter from the Prime Minister of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, dated 14 November 1993.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 14 November 1993 from the Prime Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the President of the Security Council

We regret having to inform you about the alarming situation with regard to the delivery of natural gas to Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition to the lack of other sources of energy, it can have further very serious consequences for the life and health of the population of Bosnia and Herzegovina in winter time.

In spite of all requests made by the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina so as to ensure the delivery of natural gas to the Republic, the present-day delivery to Sarajevo has been interrupted. Quantities that do reach the city from time to time are insignificant (0.5 barrels or less). Zenica, Visoko and Kakanj have not had any gas at all since October 1992. Yesterday, on 13 November 1993, 10,000 m^3 per hour of natural gas was sent from Hungary, but that quantity of gas was used to supply the so-called Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, despite sanctions.

A delegation of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina recently visited the Russian Federation, hoping to find a long-term solution to the question of gas delivery to Bosnia and Herzegovina by concluding a new contract. The main importer of the natural gas for Bosnia and Herzegovina is the Energopetrol company from Sarajevo, which took part in these negotiations. Up to now, this company negotiated directly with a Moscow company, Gazexport. Unfortunately, the Russian side, in the process of negotiations, imposed the Progrestrading company from Serbia as a mandatory intermediary for the delivery of gas to Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is our opinion that this would create conditions for a violation of the United Nations imposed sanctions.

We would kindly ask you to resolve this matter as soon as possible and establish a control mechanism that would ensure unimpeded delivery of mutually agreed quantities of natural gas to Bosnia and Herzegovina with appropriate regard to the existing sanctions against the so-called Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

(Signed) Mr. Haris SILAJDZIC
Prime Minister